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NEWSMAKERS

In a book due this July, Griffin Bell, who served as Jimmy Carter's first attorney general, takes a number of swipes at his fellow Georgian's Administration. Bell complains that Carter wasted his talents on minutiae-and gave too much power to Vice President Walter Mondale, who meddled in Justice Department business. But the biggest meddlers, says Bell, were the CIA and the Pentagon. As he tells it, they tried to block prosecution of several espionage cases, fearing a compromise of security. In one case against two Russian United Nations employees, CIA director Stansfield Turner argued that taking action would invite the KGB to retaliate against U.S. agents in Moscow. Writes Bell: "The President responded that, based on the quality of information he had been receiving, he was surprised he had anyone working inside the Soviet Union."